# Michigan Department of Treasury 496 (02/06) Auditing Procedures Report

Issued under P.A. 2 of 1968, as amended and P.A. 71 of 1919, as amended.												
Loca	I Unit	of Gov	ernment Type				Local Unit Na	me		County		
	Count	•	□City	□Twp	□Village	Other						
Fisca	al Yea	r End			Opinion Date			Date Audit Report	Submitted to State			
We a	ffirm	that	:		•							
We a	re ce	ertifie	d public ac	countants	s licensed to pra	actice in <b>I</b>	Michigan.					
We f	urthe	r affi	rm the follo	wing mat	erial, "no" respo	nses hav	e been discl	osed in the financial	statements, inclu	uding the notes, or in the		
Mana	Management Letter (report of comments and recommendations).											
	YES	9	Check ea	ch applic	able box belo	<b>w</b> . (See i	nstructions fo	r further detail.)				
1.					nent units/funds es to the financi				the financial stat	ements and/or disclosed in the		
2.								unit's unreserved fu budget for expendit		estricted net assets		
3.			The local	unit is in o	compliance with	the Unif	orm Chart of	Accounts issued by	the Department	of Treasury.		
4.			The local	unit has a	idopted a budge	et for all r	equired fund	S.				
5.			A public h	earing on	the budget was	s held in	accordance v	vith State statute.				
6.					ot violated the ssued by the Lo				nder the Emerger	ncy Municipal Loan Act, or		
7.			The local	unit has n	ot been delinqu	uent in dis	stributing tax	revenues that were	collected for ano	ther taxing unit.		
8.			The local	unit only l	nolds deposits/i	nvestmer	nts that comp	ly with statutory req	uirements.			
9.								s that came to our a sed (see Appendix H		ed in the <i>Bulletin for</i>		
10.			that have	not been	previously com	municate	d to the Loca		Division (LAFD)	during the course of our audit . If there is such activity that has		
11.			The local	unit is fre	e of repeated co	omments	from previou	s years.				
12.			The audit	opinion is	UNQUALIFIE	Э.						
13.					complied with G		or GASB 34 a	s modified by MCG	AA Statement #7	and other generally		
14.			The board	l or counc	il approves all i	invoices p	orior to payme	ent as required by cl	harter or statute.			
15.			To our kno	owledge,	bank reconcilia	tions that	were review	ed were performed t	timely.			
includes I, th	uded cripti e un	in tl on(s) dersi	nis or any of the auth gned, certif	other aud nority and y that this	dit report, nor of or commission statement is c	do they o	btain a stan	d-alone audit, pleas		the audited entity and is not name(s), address(es), and a		
We	have	e end	closed the	following	g:	Enclosed	d Not Requir	ed (enter a brief justific	cation)			
Fina	ancia	l Sta	tements									
The	lette	er of	Comments	and Reco	ommendations							
Oth	er (D	escrib	e)									
Certi	fied P	ublic A	Accountant (Fir	m Name)				Telephone Number				
Stree	et Add	ress						City	State	Zip		
Authorizing CPA Signature  Remath de Betchiaums  Printed Name  License Number							Number					

## **MEADE TOWNSHIP**

Mason County, Michigan

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Township Board Meade Township, Michigan

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Meade Township as of and for the year ended March 31, 2008, which collectively comprise the Township's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of Meade Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Meade Township, Michigan, as of March 31, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position, thereof for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The budgetary comparison schedule is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplemental information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquires of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplemental information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Meade Township's basic financial statements. The accompanying other supplemental information, as listed in the table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The other supplemental information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

The accompanying financial statements do not present a management's discussion and analysis, which would be an analysis of the financial performance for the year. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board has determined that this analysis is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the basic financial statements.

Berthiaume & Co.

July 11, 2008



## STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

sh and cash equivalents ceivables pital assets: Nondepreciable capital assets Depreciable capital assets, net  Total assets  abilities:	Governmental <u>Activities</u>				
Assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 83,961				
Receivables	4,164				
Capital assets:					
Nondepreciable capital assets	25,445				
Depreciable capital assets, net	152,631				
Total assets	266,201				
Liabilities:					
Accounts payable	3,899				
Total liabilities	3,899				
Net assets:					
Invested in capital assets	178,076				
Unrestricted	84,226				
Total net assets	\$ 262,302				

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

			Program Revenues									
	Expenses		Expenses		Charges for Services		Operating Grants and Contributions		Capital Grants and Contributions			Net xpense) evenue
Functions/Programs												
Governmental activities:	ф	22.520	Ф		Φ	1 105	Φ	14.662	Φ.	(17. (01)		
General government	\$	33,528	\$	-	\$	1,185	\$	14,662	\$	(17,681)		
Public safety		3,878		-		-		-		(3,878)		
Public works		3,076		-	<u> </u>	1,099				(1,977)		
Total governmental activities		40,482		-		2,284		14,662		(23,536)		
	Gene	ral revenu	ies:									
	Tax	xes:										
	P	roperty tax	xes, le	evied for	genera	al purpose				40,679		
	Gra	ants and co	ontrib	utions no	ot restri	cted to						
		pecific pro								10,804		
	Un	restricted i	nvest	ment ear	nings					2,176		
	Mi	scellaneou	S							5,824		
	Total general revenues								59,483			
										35,947		
	Change in net assets											
	Net assets, beginning of year									226,355		
	Net a	ssets, end	of yea	ar					\$	262,302		

#### GOVERNMENTAL FUND

## **BALANCE SHEET**

	General Fund
Assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 83,961
Taxes receivable	2,466
Due from other governmental units	1,698
Total assets	<u>\$ 88,125</u>
Liabilities and Fund Balances:	
Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	
and accrued expenses	\$ 3,899
Total liabilities	3,899
Fund balances:	
Unreserved:	
General fund	84,226
Total fund balances	84,226
Total liabilities and fund balances	<u>\$ 88,125</u>

## RECONCILIATION OF FUND BALANCE OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Total fund balances for governmental funds		\$ 84,226
Total net assets reported for governmental activities in the statement of of net assets is different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the governmental funds.		
Governmental capital assets	186,642	
Less accumulated depreciation	(8,566)	 178,076
Net assets of governmental activities		\$ 262,302

#### GOVERNMENTAL FUND

## STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

	General <u>Fund</u>
Revenues:	
Property taxes	\$ 40,679
State grants	27,750
Interest and rents	2,174
Other revenue	5,824
Total revenues	76,427
Expenditures:	
Current	
General government	28,667
Public safety	3,661
Public works	3,076
Other	2,506
Capital outlay	22,964
Total expenditures	60,874
Excess (deficiency) of	
revenues over expenditures	15,553
Fund balance, beginning of year	68,673
Fund balance, end of year	\$ 84,226

## RECONCILIATION OF STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year Ended March 31, 2008

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds	\$ 15,553
Total change in net assets reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities is different because:	
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is depreciated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.	

Capital outlay 22,964 Less depreciation expense (2,570)20,394

35,947 Change in net assets of governmental activities



#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2008

#### NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies of Meade Township conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applicable to governmental units. The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies:

#### **Reporting Entity:**

As required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial statements of the reporting entity include those of the Township. In evaluating the Township as a reporting entity, management has addressed all potential component units (traditionally separate reporting entities) for which the Township may be financially accountable and, as such, should be included within the Township's financial statements. The Township (the primary government) has no component units and accordingly, the Township has not consolidated any entities into its financial statements.

#### **Joint Venture:**

The Township participates as a member of the Mason County Rural Fire Authority.

#### Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation:

The accounts of the Township are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures or expenses, as appropriate. Governmental resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

#### Government-wide Financial Statements:

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting as are the fiduciary fund financial statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

The statement of net assets and the statement of activities report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government. These statements distinguish between activities that are governmental and those that are business-type activities. There are no business-type activities.

The statement of net assets presents governmental activities on a consolidated basis, using the economic resources measurement focus and accrual basis of accounting. This method recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term debt and obligations. The Township's net assets are reported in two parts (1) invested in capital assets and (2) unrestricted net assts. The Township first utilizes restricted resources to finance qualifying activities.

March 31, 2008

The statement of activities reports both the gross and net cost of each of the Township's functions. The functions are also supported by general government revenues (property taxes, certain intergovernmental revenues, fines, permits and charges, etc.). The statement of activities reduces gross expenses (including depreciation) by related program revenues, operating and capital grants. Program revenues must be directly associated with the function. Operating grants include operating-specific and discretionary (either operating or capital) grants.

The net costs (by function) are normally covered by general revenue (property taxes, state sources and federal sources, interest income, etc.). The Township does not allocate indirect costs. In creating the government-wide financial statements the Township has eliminated interfund transactions.

The government-wide focus is on the sustainability of the Township as an entity and the change in the Township's net assets resulting from current year activities.

#### Fund Financial Statements:

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting.

Property taxes, franchise fees, licenses, and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. Only the portion of special assessments receivable due within the current fiscal period is considered to be susceptible to accrual as revenue of the current period. Expenditure-driven grants are recognized as revenue when the qualifying expenditures have been incurred and all other grant requirements have been met. Entitlements and shared revenues are recorded at the time of receipt or earlier if the susceptible to accrual criteria are met. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the government.

Fiduciary funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations. The Fiduciary funds are accounted for on a spending or economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting.

The Township reports the following major governmental funds:

The **General Fund** is the primary operating fund of the Township. It is used to account for all financial resources, except for those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Private-sector standards of accounting and financial reporting issued prior to December 1, 1989, generally are followed in the government-wide financial statements to the extent that those standards do no conflict with or contradict guidance of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

March 31, 2008

#### Assets, Liabilities and Equity:

<u>Deposits and Investments</u> – Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, demand deposits, certificates of deposit and short term investments with a maturity of three months or less when acquired. Investments, if any, are stated at fair value.

<u>Capital Assets</u> – Purchased or constructed capital assets are reported at cost or estimated historical cost. Donated capital assets are recorded at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The Township defines capital assets as assets with an initial individual cost in excess of \$500. Costs of normal repair and maintenance that do not add to the value or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized. Public domain (infrastructure) assets (e.g., roads, bridges, sidewalks and other assets that are immovable and of value only to the government) are capitalized if acquired after April 1, 2004. Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

Buildings and improvements 20-50 years Furniture and equipment 5-10 years

<u>Compensated Absences</u> – The Township does not allow the carryover of unused sick or vacation days. Therefore, no liability has been recorded in the government-wide financial statements.

<u>Long-term Obligations</u> – In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the governmental activities statement of net assets.

<u>Fund Equity</u> – In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report reservations of fund balance for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

#### **Use of Estimates:**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### **Eliminations and Reclassifications:**

In the process of aggregating data for the statement of net assets and the statement of activities, some amounts reported as interfund activity and balances in the funds were eliminated or reclassified. Interfund receivables and payables were eliminated to minimize the "grossing up" effect on assets and liabilities within the governmental activities column.

#### **Property Taxes:**

Properties are assessed as of December 31 and the related property taxes are attached as an enforceable lien on December 1 of the following year. These taxes are due on or before February 14 with the final collection date of February 28 before they are added to the county tax rolls. The 2007 taxable valuation of the Township totaled \$12,169,663 on which ad valorem taxes levied consisted of 2.6690 mills for the Township's operating purposes.

March 31, 2008

#### NOTE 2: STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

#### **Budgetary Information**

The Township follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

- 1. The Township Clerk submits to the Township Board a proposed operating budget. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
- 2. A public hearing is conducted to obtain taxpayer comments.
- 3. Prior to April 1, the budget is legally enacted by adoption of the Township Board.
- 4. Any revision that alters the total expenditures must be approved by the Township.
- 5. Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year.
- 6. Governmental fund budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. A comparison of actual results of operations to the General Fund budget as originally adopted and amended by the Township Board is included in the required supplemental information.
- 7. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year end.

#### **Excess of Expenditures over Appropriations in Budgeted Funds:**

During the year, the Township did not incur expenditures that were materially in excess of the amounts budgeted.

#### **NOTE 3: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

Michigan Compiled Laws Section 129.91 (Public Act 20 of 1943, as amended) authorizes local governmental units to make deposits and invest in the accounts of federally insured banks, credit unions, and savings and loan associations that have offices in Michigan. The local unit is allowed to invest in bonds, securities, and other direct obligations of the United States or any agency of instrumentality of the United States; repurchase agreements; bankers' acceptances of United States banks; commercial paper rated within the two highest classifications, which matures not more than 270 days after the date of purchase; obligations of the State of Michigan or its political subdivisions, which are rated as investment grade; and mutual funds composed of investment vehicles that are legal for direct investment by local units of government in Michigan.

#### **Custodial Credit Risk of Bank Deposits:**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Township's deposits may not be returned. The Township does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. At year-end, the Township had \$103,675 of bank deposits (certificates of deposit, checking, and savings accounts), of which \$103,675 was covered by federal depository insurance and the remainder was uninsured and uncollateralized. The Township believes that due to the dollar amounts of cash deposits, and the limits of FDIC insurance, it is impractical to insure all deposits. At year end, the Township had no investments.

March 31, 2008

#### **NOTE 4: CAPITAL ASSETS**

Governmental activities capital asset activity for the year ended March 31, 2008 was as follows:

	 April 1, 2007	A	dditions	Retire	ements	M	arch 31, 2008
Governmental activities:							
Nondepreciable capital assets:							
Land	\$ 25,445	\$	-	\$		\$	25,445
Depreciable capital assets:							
Buildings and improvements	131,009		22,024		-		153,033
Furniture and equipment	 7,224		940	-			8,164
Total depreciable capital assets	138,233		22,964		-		161,197
Accumulated depreciation	 (5,996)		(2,570)				(8,566)
Depreciable capital assets, net	 132,237		20,394				152,631
Governmental activities, capital							
assets, net	\$ 157,682	\$	20,394	\$		\$	178,076

Depreciation expense was charged to functions as follows:

#### **Governmental activities:**

General government Public safety	\$ 2,354 216
Total governmental activiteis	\$ 2,570

## **NOTE 5: LONG-TERM LIABILITIES**

The Township had no long-term liabilities at March 31, 2008.

March 31, 2008

#### NOTE 6: DISAGGREGATED RECEIVABLE BALANCES

Receivables as of year end for the Township's governmental activities in the aggregate are as follows:

	 rnmental ctivities
Receivables:	
Property taxes	\$ 2,466
Intergovernmental	 1,698
Total receivables	\$ 4,164

#### **NOTE 7: RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Township is exposed to various risks of loss related to property loss, torts, errors and omissions, employee injuries (workers' compensation). The Township has purchased commercial insurance for property loss, torts, and workers' compensation claims. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded the amount of insurance coverage in the past three fiscal years.

#### NOTE 8: EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT AND BENEFIT SYSTEMS

#### **Pension Plan:**

The Township has a defined contribution pension plan covering all full-time employees. The Township contributes a percentage of each covered employee's wages to the plan. Pension expense for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2008 was \$2,174.

#### **Post Employment Benefits:**

The Township provides no post employment benefits to its retirees.

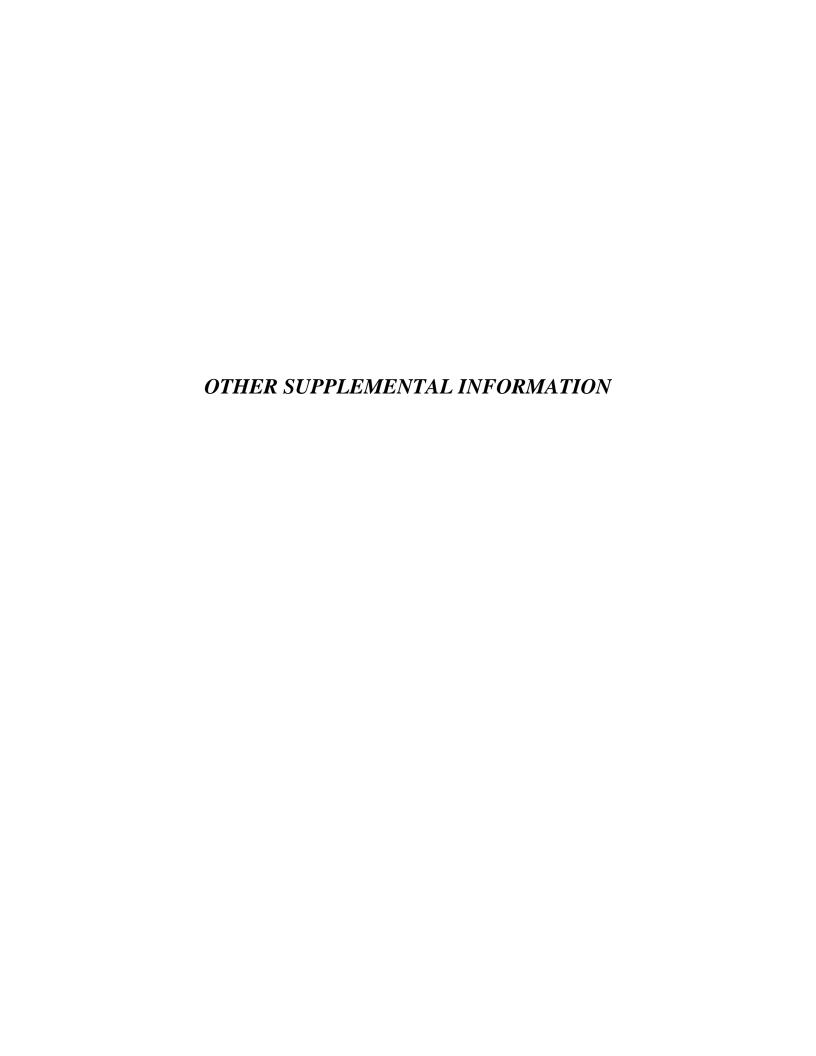
#### **Deferred Compensation Plan:**

The Township has no deferred compensation plan.



## **BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE**

		Budgeted	Amo	ounts				Actual r (Under)
	-	Original		Final		Actual		al Budget
Revenues:								
Property taxes	\$	35,520	\$	35,520	\$	40,679	\$	5,159
State grants		8,000		8,000		27,750		19,750
Interest and rents		2,000		2,000		2,174		174
Other revenue		1,810		1,810		5,824		4,014
Total revenues		47,330		47,330		76,427		29,097
Expenditures:								
Current								
General government		47,710		47,710		28,667		(19,043)
Public safety		7,150		7,150		3,661		(3,489)
Public works		10,200		10,200		3,076		(7,124)
Other		23,616		23,616		2,506		(21,110)
Capital outlay		25,000		25,000	_	22,964		(2,036)
Total expenditures		113,676		113,676		60,874		(52,802)
Excess (deficiency) of								
revenues over expenditures		(66,346)		(66,346)		15,553		81,899
Fund balance, beginning of year		68,673		68,673		68,673		<u>-</u>
Fund balance, end of year	<u>\$</u>	2,327	\$	2,327	\$	84,226	\$	81,899



## **DETAILED SCHEDULE OF REVENUES**

Revenues:	
Current taxes:	
Property taxes	\$ 32,637
Property tax administration fees	4,766
Payment in lieu of taxes	3,276
	40,679
State grants:	
Summer tax collection reimbursement	1,185
State revenue sharing - sales tax	10,804
Metro Act - right of way fees	15,761
	27,750
Interest and rents:	
Interest	2,174
Other revenue:	
Cemetery lots/perpetual care	120
Other	5,704
	5,824
Total revenues	\$ 76,427

## **DETAILED SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES**

General Government:	
Board:	
Personnel	\$ 1,360
Mileage	391
Dues and memberships Other	242 834
Other	$\frac{834}{2,827}$
Supervisor:	
Personnel	2,464
Supplies	78
Telephone	8
Mileage	166
	<u>2,716</u>
Clerk:	
Personnel	3,000
Supplies	270
Mileage	233
Dues and memberships	10
Education and training	20
Printing and publications	<u>553</u> 4,086
Board of Review:	
Personnel	791
Mileage	20
Education and training Other	357 72
ould.	1,240
Treasurer: Personnel	4,000
Supplies	206
Telephone	7
Mileage	445
Printing and publications	1,308
	5,966
Assessor:	
Personnel	3,942
Supplies	404
Contracted services	429
Mileage	375
Dues and memberships	285
Education and training Other	50 8
Ouici	5,493
	3,493

## DETAILED SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES, CONTINUED

General Government, continued:	
Elections:	
Personnel	\$ 428
Mileage	55
Education and training	
	562
Building and Grounds:	717
Personnel	717
Supplies	1,104
Contracted services	50
Mileage Insurance	26
Utilities	2,507 977
	25
Repairs and maintenance Other	209
ouler	5,615
Cemetery:	
Personnel	150
Supplies	12
Supplies	162
Total general government	28,667
Town goneral government	
Public Safety:	
Fire:	
Contracted services	3,661
Total public safety	3,661
Public Works:	
Roads:	
Contracted services	3,076
Total public works	3,076
•	

## DETAILED SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES, CONTINUED

Other: Retirement Payroll taxes	\$ 2,174 332
Total other	2,506
Capital Outlay: General government	22,964
Total capital outlay	22,964
Total expenditures	\$ 60,874

#### FIDUCIARY FUND

# COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	April 1, 		Additions		Reductions		March 31, 2008	
<b>Current Tax Collection Fund:</b>								
Assets: Cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$</u>	-	\$	454,693	<u>\$</u>	454,693	\$	
<b>Liabilities :</b> Due to other governmental units	\$	-	\$	454,693	\$	454,693	\$	



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## REQUIRED COMMUNICATION TO MEADE TOWNSHIP IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

To the Township Board Meade Township

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Meade Township for the year ended March 31, 2008, and have issued our report thereon dated July 11, 2008. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

#### Our Responsibility Under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards

As stated in our engagement letter dated September 10, 2004, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express an opinion about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities. The financial statements do not include a Management Discussion & Analysis. You have elected to exclude it because it is not required to be part of the basic financial statements.

#### Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously communicated to you in our engagement letter.

#### **Significant Accounting Policies**

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by Meade Township are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. There are no significant transactions that have been recognized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transaction occurred.

#### **Accounting Estimates**

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates may be particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. There were no sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements.

#### **Disclosures**

The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent, and clear. Certain financial statement disclosures may be particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users.

#### <u>Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit</u>

We encountered no difficulties in performing and completing our audit.

#### **Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements**

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements, if any.

#### **Disagreements with Management**

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

#### **Management Representations**

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated July 9, 2008.

#### **Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants**

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

#### **Discussions with Management**

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the governmental unit's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

#### **Internal Control Matters**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of Meade Township as of and for the year ended March 31, 2008, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered Meade Township's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Municipality's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Municipality's internal control.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Municipality's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that misstatement of the Municipality's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the Municipality's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the Municipality's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses as defined above.

Deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above, follow:

#### Recording, Processing and Summarizing Accounting Data

Criteria: All governmental units are required to have in place internal controls over recording, processing, summarizing accounting data and preparing financial statements. SAS No. 112 requires us to communicate with you about this.

Conditions: As is the case with many smaller and medium-sized entities, the government has historically relied on its independent external auditors to assist in the recording, processing, summarizing accounting data and preparing financial statements as part of its external financial reporting process. Accordingly, the government has placed reliance on its external auditors, who cannot by definition be considered a part of the government's internal controls.

Cause: This condition was caused by the government's decision that it is more cost effective to have external auditors recommend the necessary adjusting journal entries to its general ledger and prepare the financial statements than to incur the time and expense for the government to perform these tasks internally.

Effect: As a result of this condition, the government lacks internal controls over the recording, processing, summarizing accounting data and preparing financial statements, and instead relied, in part, on its external auditors for assistance with this task.

View of Responsible Officials: The government has evaluated the cost versus benefit of establishing internal controls over the recording, processing, summarizing accounting data and preparing financial statements, and determined that it is in the best interests of the government to rely on its external auditors to recommend the necessary adjustments and preparation of the financial statements.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management, Township Board, and others within the Municipality, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Sincerely,

Rerthiaume & lo.

Berthiaume & Company Certified Public Accountants Saginaw, Michigan

July 14, 2008